

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A TIGER FY 2014
PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION FOR THE DUKE BELTLINE TRAIL PROJECT**

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2014, USDOT published a Notice of Funding Availability for the Department of Transportation's National Infrastructure Investments under the *Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014*, also known as the TIGER FY 2014 program; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) is soliciting applications for the TIGER FY 2014 Grant Program, under which \$600 million will be made available to fund transportation projects across the country; and

WHEREAS, Congress has provided USDOT with the flexibility to use up to \$35 million of TIGER funds for planning grants; and

WHEREAS, this Notice of Funding Availability solicits applications from all eligible applicants, which includes local governments like the City of Durham; and

WHEREAS, the application deadline established by USDOT is April 28, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the City of Durham is submitting a TIGER FY 2014 grant application for master planning and preparation of a corridor feasibility study for the Duke Beltline; and

WHEREAS, the Duke Beltline Trail project will convert 2.2 miles of an unused railway corridor that encircles the City of Durham into a linear park and active transportation corridor that will connect to residential neighborhoods, transit centers, public spaces, and major employment areas; and

WHEREAS, this project is included in the City's adopted *Durham Trails and Greenways Master Plan* and has been identified by the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission as a high-priority trail project; and

WHEREAS, this project will improve a transportation corridor that is currently in poor condition to a state of good repair in order to improve economic mobility and enhanced multimodal connections to employment, education, and services.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Durham that the Council authorizes and supports the submission of a TIGER FY 2014 Planning Grant application for the Duke Beltline Trail project.